

# U.S. Steel Tower

case study  
By Lauren Mears

Location: Pittsburgh, PA



**Architect:** Harrison, Abramovitz & Abbe

**Owner:** U.S. Steel

**Year of completion:** 1970

**Climate:** Warm Summer Continental Climate

**Material of interest:** steel

**Application:** Exterior façade and structure

**Properties of material:** First building to use steel as an exterior building material. It has a rust-like appearance due to the exterior application and support material Cor-ten. Cor-ten resists the corrosive effects of rain, snow, ice, fog, and other conditions by forming a coating of dark brown oxidation over the metal, which inhibits deeper penetration and negates the need for painting and costly rust-prevention maintenance over the years.

**Manufacturer/ fabricator:**  
manufacturer: U.S. Steel

**Sources:**  
manufacturer website: [www.ussteel.com/](http://www.ussteel.com/)